

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/NZ2004/000069

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. 7: A61F 2/44 2/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
DWPI and keywords: disc and spinal and fluid and similar terms.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	WO 2000/035382 A1 (DIMSO) 22 June 2000 Page 3 line 17 to page 6 line 27	1-3, 6-10 4, 5, 11
X Y	US 6527804 B1 (GAUCHET et al.) 4 March 2003 Column 3 line 22 to column 4 line 5	1-3, 6-10 4, 5, 11
X Y	US 5002576 A (FUHRMANN et al.) 26 March 1991 Column 2 line 52 to column 3 line 2	1-3, 6-10 4, 5, 11
X Y	US 6419704 B1 (FERREE) 16 July 2002 Column 2 line 50 to column 3 line 22 Column 7 lines 29 to 50	1-4, 6-11
		5

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C ☒ See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
28 June 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

- 7 JUL 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU

AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE
PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA
E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au
Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929

Authorized officer

D. Melhuish
DAVID MELHUISE
Telephone No : (02) 6283 2426

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C (Continuation).

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claims No.
Y	US 6248106 B1 (FERREE) 19 June 2001 Column 2 lines 14 to 19	4, 11
Y	US 6063121 A (XAVIER et al.) 16 May 2000 Column 4 lines 21 to 43	4, 5, 11
Y	US 4759769 A (HEDMAN et al.) 26 July 1988 Column 5 line 45 to column 6 line 15	4, 5, 11
P,A	US 2003/0204271 A1 (FERREE) 30 October 2003 Paragraphs 14 and 15	

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This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member			
WO 2000/035382		AU 15682/00	CA 2354169	EP 1139932	
		FR 2787014	US 6582466	ZA 200104842	
US 6527804		AU 15684/00	CA 2354166	EP 1139934	
		FR 2787016	WO 0035384	ZA 200104844	
US 5002576		EP 0346269	JP 2111358		
US 6419704		AU 62476/00	AU 63465/01	BR 0004692	
		CA 2322350	CA 2377836	CN 1294053	
		EP 1108548	EP 1292251	JP 2001105587	
		US 6155678	US 6340369	US 6344058	
		US 6352557	US 6371990	US 6419702	
		US 6432107	US 6454804	US 6491724	
		US 6494883	US 6719797	US 2002128630	
		US 2002128652	US 2002128713	US 2002128718	
		US 2002133231	US 2002151981	US 2002156532	
		US 2002156533	US 2002165542	US 2003004574	
		US 2003026788	US 2003035035	US 2003040796	
		US 2003074076	US 2003078579	US 2003191536	
		US 2003195630	US 2003199981	US 2003233097	
		US 2003233148	US 2004010318	US 2004024460	
		US 2004024461	US 2004030390	US 2004030391	
		US 2004030398	US 2004044410	US 2004073311	
		US 2004093092	US 2004097980	US 2004111155	
		WO 0189429	WO 03090649	WO 03094806	
US 6248106		US 2001027319	US 2002133155		
US 6063121		CA 2300613			
US 4759769		EP 0282161	JP 1308557		
US 2003204271		NONE			

Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.

END OF ANNEX